DEC 2 8 2005

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 **EXPEDITED PROCEDURE EXAMINING GROUP 3700**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

First Named

Inventor:

Stephen T. Kuehn

Appln. No.:

10/034,589

December 28, 2001

Filed For

ANNULOPLASTY RING HOLDER

Docket No.: \$16.12-0128

Group Art Unit: 3739

Examiner:

Aaron F. Roane

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PAPER IS BEING TRANSMITTED VIA FACSIMILE, 571-273-8300, TO THE COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, THIS

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action mailed on September 28, 2005. Please amend the above-identified application as follows.